

164 million fish. The station has been an invaluable resource to Louisiana's wildlife and fisheries.

Federal fish hatcheries have been an important part of our Nation's resource management efforts for more than a century. Resource managers nationwide acknowledge hatcheries as a valuable tool for the preservation of our Nation's fisheries resources. Because of the importance of fisheries to Louisiana, the significance of the Natchitoches National Fish Hatchery can not be overstated.

Today, I applaud the Natchitoches National Fish Hatchery on their 75th anniversary and wish them continued prosperity.●

#### MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message from the President of the United States was communicated to the Senate by Ms. Evans, one of his secretaries.

#### EXECUTIVE MESSAGE REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate a message from the President of the United States submitting a treaty which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

#### MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 2:03 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has agreed to the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 4761. An act to provide for exploration, development, and production activities for mineral resources on the outer Continental Shelf, and for other purposes.

#### EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-7422. A communication from the Equal Employment Opportunity Director, Farm Credit Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Administration's Notification and Federal Employee Antidiscrimination and Retaliation Act Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2005; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-7423. A communication from the Director, Regulatory Review Group, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "2005 Section 32 Hurricane Disaster Programs" (RIN0560-AH45) received on July, 2006; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-7424. A communication from the Director, Regulatory Review Group, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Appeal Procedures" (RIN0560-AG88) received on July 6, 2006; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-7425. A communication from the Secretary of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant

to law, the report of seven identical violations of the Antideficiency Act; to the Committee on Appropriations.

EC-7426. A communication from the Deputy Chief of Legislative Affairs, Department of the Navy, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report of the preliminary planning for OMB Circular A-76 commercial activity study; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-7427. A communication from the Acting Principal Deputy (Personnel and Readiness), Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report of the closure of the Defense commissary store at Naval Air Station (NAS) Keflavik, Iceland, by August 31, 2006; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-7428. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), transmitting, the report of (4) officers authorized to wear the insignia of the next higher grade in accordance with title 10, United States Code, section 777; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-7429. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), transmitting, a report on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General Michael M. Dunn, United States Air Force, and his advancement to the grade of lieutenant general on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-7430. A communication from the Assistant Director, Executive and Political Personnel, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, (3) reports relative to vacancy announcements within the Department, received on July 6, 2006; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-7431. A communication from the Liaison Officer, Office of the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Uniformed Services (CHAMPUS)/TRICARE; Coverage of Phase II and Phase III Clinical Trials Sponsored by the National Institutes of Health National Cancer Institute" (RIN0720-AA57) received on July 6, 2006; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-7432. A communication from the Secretary of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month report prepared by the Department of Commerce's Bureau of Industry and Security on the national emergency declared by Executive Order 13222 of August 17, 2001; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-7433. A communication from the Chairman, National Credit Union Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Administration's 2005 Annual Report; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-7434. A communication from the Executive Vice President, Financial Information Group, Chicago Federal Home Loan Bank, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Bank's 2005 management report and statements on system of internal controls; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-7435. A communication from the President and Chief Executive Officer, Federal Home Loan Bank of Des Moines, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Bank's 2005 report of Independent Auditors on Internal Control over Financial Reporting and on Compliance Based on an Audit of Financial Statements; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-7436. A communication from the Associate General Counsel for Legislation and Regulations, Government National Mortgage Association, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Government National Mortgage Association; Excess Yield Securities" (RIN2503-AA18)(FR-4958-

F-02)) received on July 6, 2006; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-7437. A communication from the Associate General Counsel for Legislation and Regulations, Office of Housing, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Prohibition of Property Flipping in HUD's Single Family Mortgage Insurance Programs; Additional Exceptions to Time Restriction on Sales" ((RIN2502-A118)(FR-4911-F-02)) received on July 6, 2006; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-7438. A communication from the Human Resources Specialist, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Administration and Management, Department of Labor, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a vacancy and the designation of an acting officer for the position of Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs, received on July 6, 2006; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-7439. A communication from the Director, Regulations Policy and Management Staff, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Listing of Color Additives Exempt From Certification; Mica-Based Pearlescent Pigments" (Doc. No. 1998C-0790) received on July 6, 2006; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-7440. A communication from the Special Assistant to the Secretary, White House Liaison, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a nomination for the position of Assistant Secretary for Policy and Planning, received on July 6, 2006; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

EC-7441. A communication from the Chairman, Medicare Payment Advisory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Commission's June 2006 Report to the Congress entitled "Increasing the Value of Medicare"; to the Committee on Finance.

#### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. INHOFE, from the Committee on Environment and Public Works, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 2735. A bill to amend the National Dam Safety Program Act to reauthorize the national dam safety program, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 109-276).

By Mr. MCCONNELL, from the Committee on Appropriations, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute and an amendment to the title:

H.R. 5522. A bill making appropriations for foreign operations, export financing, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2007, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 109-277).

#### INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. VITTER:

S. 3630. A bill to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to reauthorize a program relating to the Lake Pontchartrain Basin, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.